hold a National level Common Entrance Test for admission to various courses under the management quota for 2005; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) A representation was received from the All India Medical and Engineering Colleges Association (AIMECA) to permit them to hold a National Level Common Entrance Test for admission to various courses under the management quota for the year 2004-05. As per the Supreme Court directions in the TMA Pai *Vs* State of Karnataka and Islamic Academy of Education *Vs* State of Karnataka judgments, the seats of the management quota in private institutions were to be filled up by conducting admission test in the respective States either by the State Government or the Association of such colleges for similar courses within the States under-the supervision of a Committee constituted for the purpose. In view of this, the representation of the AIMECA was rejected.

Mid-day meal scheme in Maharashtra

360. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of hunger and malnutrition 640 children died in Akkalkuva and Dadgaon in Maharashtra between March to August, 2004;

(b) whether mid-day meal scheme is not operating in the schools of the said areas; and

(c) the action proposed to ensure that no one dies of hunger in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) As per information furnished by Government of Maharashtra, 471 children of 0—6 age group in Akkalkuva and Dadgaon blocks died during the relevant period, and that these deaths occurred due to diseases, and not because of hunger and malnutrition.

(b) As per information furnished by State Government, schools in certain remote areas of the said blocks had not been covered under mid-day meal scheme at the relevant time.

(c) The Antyodaya Anna Yojana is being implemented by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution to ensure food security for the poorest of the poor. Its coverage has been expanded in August, 2004, from 1 crore to 2 crore "below poverty line (BPL)" families, especially households at risk of hunger. Besides, other schemes, such as, Sampooma Gramin Rojgar Yojana, Annapporna, Mid-Day Meal programme, ICDS, etc. are also being implemented to prevent hunger and malnutrition among poor and vulnerable sections of society.

Grants for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in Kerala

361. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the grants sanctioned to Kerala for implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan for the year 2004-05;

(b) the amount spent so far, by the State Government and whether any amount stands pending as unspent and if so, the details, thereof; and

(c) the progress achieved by the State Government in implementation of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD.ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Rs. 59.39 Crores.

(b) As on 20.11.04 Rs. 44.00 crores had been spent and Rs. 15.39 crores was in balance for utilization in coming months.

(c) Information is given in the Statement.

Statement

Progress of implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in Kerala

SI.No.	Activities	Achievement
1.	**Civil works in progress**	
(i)	Construction of BRC* buildings	2
(ii)	Construction of CRC** buildings	6
(iii)	Building for buildingless schools	75